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~~57~~. (Amended) The method of claim ¹⁴56, wherein the nucleic acid backbone includes the phosphate backbone modification on the 5' inter-nucleotide linkages.

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~~58~~. (Amended) The method of claim ¹⁴56, wherein the nucleic acid backbone includes the phosphate backbone modification on the 3' inter-nucleotide linkages.

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66. (Amended) A method for enhancing recovery of bone marrow in a subject undergoing or having undergone cancer therapy, comprising:
administering to a subject undergoing or having undergone cancer therapy which damages the bone marrow an effective amount for enhancing the recovery of bone marrow of an immunostimulatory nucleic acid, comprising :

5' X₁ X₂CGX₃ X₄ 3'

wherein C is unmethylated, wherein X₁X₂ and X₃X₄ are nucleotides.

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~~71~~. (Amended) In a method for stimulating an immune response in a subject having a cancer, the method of the type involving antigen dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC), the improvement comprising:

C4
administering to the subject an immunostimulatory nucleic acid, comprising:

5' X₁ X₂CGX₃ X₄ 3'

wherein C is unmethylated, wherein X₁X₂ and X₃X₄ are nucleotides.

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~~72~~. (Amended) The method of claim ³⁰71, wherein at least one nucleotide has a phosphate backbone modification.

[Please add the following new claims:

~~36~~6. (New) A method for treating or preventing cancer, comprising:

administering to a subject having a cancer an effective amount for treating or preventing cancer of an immunostimulatory nucleic acid, comprising:



wherein C is unmethylated, wherein X_1X_2 and X_3X_4 are nucleotides, and wherein the sequence is not palindromic.

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~~37~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, further comprising administering a chemotherapeutic agent.

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~~38~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, further comprising administering a cancer immunotherapeutic agent.

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~~39~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is brain cancer.

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~~40~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is lung cancer.

⁴¹
~~41~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is ovarian cancer.

⁴²
~~42~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

⁴³
~~43~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is prostate cancer.

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~~44~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is colon cancer.

⁴⁵
~~45~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is leukemia.

⁴⁶
~~46~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~36~~, wherein the cancer is carcinoma.

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~~87~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~76~~, wherein the cancer is sarcoma.

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~~88~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~76~~, wherein at least one nucleotide has a phosphate backbone modification.

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~~89~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~76~~, wherein the oligonucleotide has 8 to 100 nucleotides.

⁴⁹
~~90~~. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁸~~88~~, wherein the phosphate backbone modification is a phosphorothioate or phosphorodithioate modification.

⁵⁰
~~91~~. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁹~~90~~, wherein the nucleic acid backbone includes the phosphate backbone modification on the 5' inter-nucleotide linkages.

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~~92~~. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁹~~90~~, wherein the nucleic acid backbone includes the phosphate backbone modification on the 3' inter-nucleotide linkages.

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~~93~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~76~~, wherein X_1X_2 are nucleotides selected from the group consisting of: GpT, GpG, GpA, ApA, ApT, ApG, CpT, CpA, CpG, TpA, TpT, and TpG; and X_3X_4 are nucleotides selected from the group consisting of: TpT, CpT, ApT, TpG, ApG, CpG, TpC, ApC, CpC, TpA, ApA, and CpA.

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~~94~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~76~~, wherein X_1X_2 are GpA and X_3X_4 are TpT.

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~~95~~. (New) The method of claim ³⁶~~76~~, wherein X_1X_2 are both purines and X_3X_4 are both pyrimidines.

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